

COMPUTER RESOURCES/ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY (AUP) FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

Stafford Municipal School District (SMSD) is pleased to offer our students access to computer resources and electronic networks such as the internet. These computer resources are a privilege, not a right. This access will increase learning opportunities allowing students to explore thousands of current information sources from around the world. These resources are to be used in a legal, ethical and appropriate manner to support district educational goals. The safety and security of minors is of the utmost importance to SMSD and the district has taken precautions to restrict access to controversial information with the use of filtering software. Although it is impossible to control all materials, the valuable information and interaction available on this worldwide network far outweighs the possibility that users may procure material that is not consistent with district educational goals. The district has established the following guidelines for Acceptable Use, and asks students and their parent or guardian to read and discuss them together. All student access of the internet on district computers and devices will be monitored by at least one member of the district instructional staff. The unsupervised use of the internet by student(s) is prohibited.

CIPA

The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) is a federal law enacted by Congress in December 2000 to address concerns about access in schools and libraries to the Internet and other information. In August of 2011, the FCC released a new ruling on the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requiring that school Internet safety policies must address further regulations for E-Rate regarding Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act of 2008. SMSD is a CIPA compliant district and the district Employee/ Student Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) addresses the issues required to maintain compliance. SMSD filters all internet enabled computers used by students, patrons and staff to prevent inappropriate material and websites from being accessed online. The filter settings will only be disabled on an as needed basis for bona fide research or other lawful purposes. SMSD will only allow safe and secure use by minors of direct electronic communications such as student email, use of chat rooms, and instant messaging.

Students are responsible for appropriate behavior on the school's computer network just as they are in a classroom or other school location. The district Code of Conduct applies while students are utilizing any school resources, including technology resources and the internet. It is expected that users will comply with district standards and the specific rules set forth below. The use of the network is a privilege, not a right, and may be revoked if abused. The user is personally responsible for his/her actions in accessing and utilizing the school's computer resources.

- Network administrators have the right to search student network storage locations and review data to maintain system integrity to ensure students are using the system responsibly.
- Students must follow all copyright laws.
- Students shall not give anyone other than authorized staff members their login/password or files for any reason.
- Students with individual accounts are always responsible for their login information and the proper use of their account.
- Students will receive training, through English/Reading class library rotation, on appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking sites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response.
- Students will be actively monitored and supervised at all times when using district technology resources and/or accessing the internet with regard to safe and appropriate online practices and activities.
- Students can use their personal or district storage for school projects and class work only (no music, games, personal files, etc.)

- Students are prohibited from accessing, copying, renaming or deleting anyone else's files.
- Students are not allowed to access social networking sites such while using a computer connected to the Stafford MSD network and are prohibited from disclosing any personal identification information such as their name, phone number, address or age.
- Students are prohibited from accessing proxy sites or any other sites which bypass the district filters or hide his/her identity.
- Students are prohibited from uploading/downloading or installing any commercial software, shareware, freeware, music or games onto network drives, disks or personal devices (flash drives, cell phone, iPod, etc.), from "hacking," changing any computer configurations and/or settings and from damaging any computer, peripheral or the network in any way.
- Any attempt to alter, destroy, or disable district computer equipment, district data, the data of others, or networks connected to the district's system, (even if the offense is initiated off school property and/or the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment) is prohibited.
- Students shall not use a computer or any other electronic device for any unlawful purposes including: cyber-bullying, cyber-stalking, threatening, harassing, and libeling a district employee or student.
- Sending or posting electronic messages that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another person's reputation, or illegal (***even if the offense is initiated off school property such that the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment***) is prohibited.
- Using any type of electronic communication or websites at school to encourage illegal behavior or threaten school safety is prohibited.
- Notify an adult immediately, if by accident, you encounter materials which violate appropriate use.

Consequences of Agreement Violation

Any attempt to violate the provisions of this agreement may result in revocation of the student's access to the use of district computer resources and/or the Network/Internet. In addition, school disciplinary action and/or appropriate legal action may be taken. With just cause, the building principal and/or designee, may deny, revoke, or suspend computer or Network/Internet access as required, pending an investigation. Any attempt to break the law through the use of a Stafford MSD Network/Internet account, may result in litigation against the offender by the proper authorities. If such an event occurs, Stafford MSD will fully comply with the proper authorities to provide any information necessary for the litigation process.

Permission to have Internet Access

Stafford MSD offers students access to a computer network and the Internet. To gain access to the internet, all students must obtain parental permission as verified by the signature on the form below.

******Please indicate your preference on the Computer Resources/Acceptable Use Policy section of the Parent/Student Consent Checklist******